

External Release Schedule: 2012 - 2013				
Release Activities & Milestones	January 2013 (R12) <i>Major</i> Price change/Structural Changes. May have mailer/vendor software impacts	April 2013 (R13) <i>Minor</i> Minor enhancements and maintenance	July 2013 (R14) <i>Major</i> New Products/Structural changes. May have mailer/vendor software impacts	October 2013 (R15) <i>Minor</i> Significant non-structural enhancements and maintenance
USPS Announcement of Major Business Changes & Requirements				
Publish Release Overview	22-Jun-12	-	21-Dec-12	-
IDEAlliance Technical Specifications				
Request specification changes that require new Mail.dat or Mail.XML releases.	15-Jun-12	-	14-Dec-12	-
Publish initial technical specifications	23-Jul-12	-	22-Jan-13	-
Publish final technical specifications	20-Aug-12	-	25-Feb-13	-
USPS Postage Statements (RIBBS Publication Schedule)				
Publish Preliminary Postage Statements minus actual prices	Aug 31 2012	-	8-Mar-13	-
Publish Final Price Embedded Postage Statements	Dec 28 2012	-	28-Jun-13	-
USPS Release Documents Publications (Release Notes, Guides, Technical Specifications and re-certification criteria)				
Publish initial release documents ¹	Aug 17, 2012	Nov 9, 2012	Feb 22, 2013	May 24, 2013
Publish second version of release documents (with validations) ^{1,2}	Sep 28, 2012	Dec 7, 2012	Apr 5, 2013	Jun 21, 2013
Publish vendor re-certification criteria documents	Sep 28, 2012	Dec 7, 2012	Apr 5, 2013	Jun 21, 2013
Publish third version of release documents ¹	Dec 3, 2012	Mar 4, 2013	Jun 10, 2013	Sep 9, 2013
Publish fourth version of release documents (release notes only)	Jan 11, 2013	Apr 5, 2012	Jul 12, 2013	Oct 11, 2013
Publish final (post-deployment) release documents ¹	Feb 8, 2013	Apr 26, 2013	Aug 9, 2013	Nov 1, 2013
Acceptance Testing				
Execute Acceptance Testing	Dec 10 - Jan 4	Mar 11- Mar 29	Jun 17 - Jul 5	Sep 16- Oct 4
USPS Release Deployment				
Deployment	Jan 13 2013	-	Jul 14 2013	-
TEM Software Deployment	Jan 14 2013	-	Jul 15 2013	-
Implementation	Jan 27 2013	Apr 7 2013	Jul 28 2013	Oct 13 2013

Schedule for Structural System Changes
<p>Notes:</p> <p>The Winter and Summer (Major - structural) releases will be used to reflect structural changes. The Winter release will be dedicated to Price Change. To the extent possible, the Spring and Fall (Minor) releases will not reflect changes that impact software logic or form structure.</p> <p>The release schedule does not represent critical or high priority bug fixes, and patches that may occur on an as-needed basis. The Fall release will reflect significant non-structural changes.</p> <p>The Postal Service intends to file with the PRC Market Dominant prices 90 days ahead of the implementation date and 60 days ahead for the Competitive products.</p> <p>¹ Each publication of release documents will consist of the following documents: 1) PostalOne! Release Notes, 2) FAST Release Notes, 3) FAST User Guides - Customer Origin Entry, 4) FAST User Guides - Customer Drop Ship, 5) FAST User Guides - Internal, 6) FAST User Guides - CSA Guide, 7) eVS Pub 205 Appendix G, 8) Mail.dat Technical Specification, 9) Mail.XML Technical Specifications - eDoc, 10) Mail.XML Technical Specifications - Data Distribution, 11) Mail.XML Technical Specifications - FAST, 12) Mail.XML Technical Specifications - MID/CRID</p> <p>² The complete list of validation codes and descriptions will be published starting with the second version of release documents.</p>